

Take advantage of the best local guide to what's on TV next week with The Telegram's handy schedule of programming.

Page 6

Tuesday

November 23, 2004

Norton, Kansas

Home of Clairene Hoppes

Briefly

Eagles to serve

dinner Thursday

Members of the Norton Eagles Auxiliary will be serving Thanksgiving dinner Thursday at the lodge.

Coordinator Sherry Hickman said the event is meant to provide meals for the people who normally receive "Meals on Wheels" for shut-ins and for people who can't be with family that day.

Auxiliary members have volunteered to pick up anyone needing a ride to the Lodge.

For more information, call Mrs. Hickman at 877-2839.

Football banquet

set for Sunday

The annual Norton Community High School football banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. Sunday in the 4-H Building in Norton under the sponsorship of the Blue Jay Booster Club.

This season's players will be introduced by Coach Bruce Graber and he will present individual awards.

A carry-in meal will precede the presentations. All fans are invited and are asked to bring a meat, vegetable or salad and dessert and their own table service.

Schools close

for Thanksgiving

Jennings, Northern Valley and Logan schools will all be closed for Thanksgiving break Wednesday-Friday, Nov. 24-26.

Norton and Lenora schools will dismiss at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24, and be closed the rest of the week.

Classes will resume at all area schools on Monday, Nov. 29.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy with lows in the mid 20s. North winds 5 to 15 mph.  
Wednesday — Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 40s. Northwest winds 5 to 15 mph.  
Wednesday Night — Cloudy with lows in the lower 20s. West winds around 5 mph.  
Thanksgiving Day — Partly cloudy and warmer with highs in the upper 50s. Southwest winds around 10 mph.  
Thursday Night — Mostly cloudy with lows in the 20s.

Howell report:

Sunday ..... High 44, Low 37  
Monday ..... High 53, Low 31  
Month ago ..... High 72, Low 43  
Year ago ..... High 33, Low 11  
November precipitation ..... 2.60 inches  
Year-to-date precipitation ... 25.00 inches  
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for opening our hearts to the true meaning of Christmas. Help us remember this message in the weeks and months to come. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

## Parking rules pose some problems

By VERONICA MONIER

The city is looking at stopping parking near East Campus.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said the ordinance would not allow parking north of East Campus on Wilberforce from State Street and then 307 feet west. He said the north side of the street already has no parking from State to about the alley.

He said people, who live in the area, came to the city to complain, saying that during games, buses and vehicles park incorrectly and block the street making it

hard for them to get in and out of their driveways.

Mr. Lawson said he took pictures and the matter went before the Public Safety Committee, which determined that that part of the street should have no parking with the exception of passenger buses.

The committee thought that the problem might be alleviated if the buses didn't have to compete with other vehicles for parking, he said.

He didn't think there was a problem when there isn't a game, but that it would

probably be easier for people to remember not to park there if it was a no parking area all of the time, rather than just part of the time.

Mr. Lawson said the city did notify the school about the proposed ordinance.

He said one school board member spoke to him about his concerns. He said the board member felt the area was already short on parking and that this would make it worse.

Superintendent Greg Mann said the Norton School District would prefer that the

parking along that street to remain as it is.

Two readings of the ordinance have already been done at recent city council meetings, with the third reading scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 1. After that, the no parking rule would go into effect.

Mr. Mann and several school board members are planning to attend a Public Safety Committee meeting at 5 p.m. Monday to discuss the issue.

Parking is available at East Campus in a parking lot on the southwest side of the buildings.



## Pancakes feed crowd in Almena

Plenty of people showed up to eat for a good cause Saturday during a Pancake and Sausage Feed organized to help the city and Almena Chamber of Commerce pay for seasonal flags to be hung on Main Street. Eldo Graham (right) flipped cakes while Merle Hawks (above) put them on plates. Other volunteers were Jean Leuszler, Fleta Hanlon, Laverne Graham, Carolyn Bivens, Betty Bivens, Jessica Bivens, Esther Marble and Sandra Anderson.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier



## Offices, stores close for holiday

Most businesses in Norton will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday.

The only restaurant open that day will be Town and Country Kitchen from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Both discount stores plan to be open. Pamida's hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The pharmacy will be closed. Dollar General will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Both grocery stores will be closed, but should you need milk or gas, the town's three convenience stores, Love's, Time Saver and Diamond Shamrock, will be open as usual: 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

City and county offices will be closed both Thursday and Friday with the Norton Public Library closing at noon on Wednesday.

The Norton County Health Department will be closed Thursday and Friday.

## Churches give thanks

Thanksgiving is a time to enjoy the good things of the earth but also a time to remember.

When our forefathers put on the first Thanksgiving feast they were giving thanks for having a good harvest and having survived in the new world.

While most of us think of Thanksgiving as a day for turkey and football, many folks remember to bow their heads and give thanks.

Others attend church to offer their prayers.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Norton, will have a special 8 a.m. Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday morning.

St. Joseph Catholic Church in New Almelo will have a Wednesday evening 7 p.m. Thanksgiving vigil Mass.

Prairie View Reformed Church and Luctor Christian Reformed Church will have joint services at 9:30 a.m. at the Luctor church two miles east and three miles north of Prairie View on Thanksgiving morning. Everyone is welcome to attend.

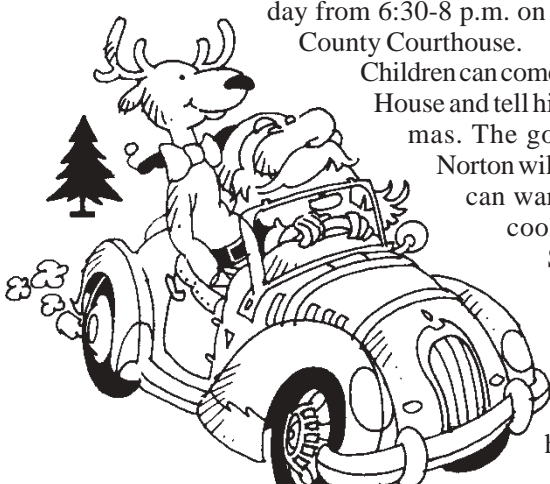
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Norton, is planning a 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Day worship service.

## Santa Claus is coming to town

Santa is coming to Norton a bit early again this year. In fact, he'll be here Friday from 6:30-8 p.m. on the east lawn of the Norton County Courthouse.

Children can come see Santa in his Gingerbread House and tell him what they want for Christmas. The good little boys and girls of Norton will get a coloring book and then can warm up on hot chocolate and cookies. After they meet with Santa, they can take a sleigh ride around the block.

If they miss him Friday, they can catch him again in the same spot every Thursday until Christmas. He'll be here Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23.



## Electric rate increase to stay

By VERONICA MONIER

The three-fourths of a cent per kilowatt hour surcharge that the Norton City Council passed in June and started collecting with the Sept. 1 billing will remain in effect until December of 2005.

The surcharge, which was originally supposed to last for six months, was set up to pay for repairs to engine No. 8, the city's largest engine at the power plant. So far, the city has paid \$110,083 for repairs but another bill for labor is expected.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said the city hasn't had an increase in its electrical rates in 18 or 19 years and that it was extending the surcharge to give the budget a boost.

"We would have had to raise the mill levy considerably if this surcharge wasn't in place," he said.

Mr. Lawson said the city has been trying to get a contract worked out with Sunflower Electric for two watts of 'firm' power since March. Right now, he said the city is buying excess power until the contract can be agreed upon.

The two watts of 'firm' power would allow the city to cut down on the amount of power it generates, he said, which should, in turn, save the city's electrical customers money.

"Right now, we're buying energy a whole lot cheaper than what it would be (Continued on Page 5)

# Stores offer Christmas on Us cash

Have you been shopping in Norton? Well, if you have, and you've been shopping at participating businesses, then you have a chance to win big with "Christmas On Us".

The rules are simple — look for a sign in the window of a "Christmas On Us" participating merchant. These merchants are Computer Pro, Countryside Vet, Dairy Queen, Felton's Ace Building Center, First State Bank, Hot Shots, Jamboree Foods, Kellie's, Moffet Drug, Nex-Tech, Norton Flowers and Gifts, Norton Shop and Save, Quizno's, The Sewing Box, Town and Country Kitchen, and Walter Motor.

When you make a purchase, you will receive one ticket for every \$10 you spend. If you buy \$50 worth of groceries, you receive five tickets. If you spend \$1,000 on merchandise or services, you get 100 tickets. And even if you don't buy anything at all, you can still pick up one ticket per week at *The Norton Telegram* office at 215 S. Kansas Ave. or at the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce at 104 S. State St.

Tickets will be collected from participating sponsors each week.

If your ticket number appears in the "Christmas On Us" section of today's edition of *The Telegram*, then you could be one of 10 instant winners, getting \$50 in scrip to spend at any of the participating merchants.

All you have to do to get your \$50 is come to *The Telegram* before 5 p.m. this Friday with your winning ticket, show us the ticket number that was in the paper, and collect your prize.

There will be ten instant winners throughout the four week promotion. The ticket numbers will appear in ads running today, and then Tuesday, Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14. Like this week, the instant winners will have until 5 p.m. Friday of that week to collect their winnings by presenting their winning tickets at *The Telegram* office.

All prizes are paid in scrip and can be spent at participating merchants only.

The last day for us to collect tickets is Dec. 17. On Saturday, Dec. 18 the grand prize drawings for \$500 and \$1,000 will be held.

The winning tickets must be presented at the drawing to claim prizes at the time of the drawing.

If you want to win big, then just keep shopping at one of the 14 participating businesses and check the Christmas on Us section in today's *Telegram*.

## Man receives leadership award

Jim Blume, president of Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas, was awarded the InterHab Distinguished Leadership Award on Oct. 22 at the annual conference in Wichita.

He received the award for a career of long-standing service and personal and professional integrity.

InterHab serves community service organizations in Kansas through support, technical assistance and advocacy. Through its members, leadership is provided at the local, state and national level to support people with disabilities.

Mr. Blume was among eight recipients who were recognized.



Norm Myers touched up the first coat of paint on his Christmas themed window creation at Pure Prairie Natural Foods yesterday. Mr. Myers has painted windows in Denver and also around town in Norton, in addition to doing Christmas scenes for businesses.

— Telegram photo by Veronica Monier

# City, county agree on contract for jail, dispatch

By VERONICA MONIER

After months of negotiating, the city and county have finally both signed an agreement on the sharing of dispatch and jail services.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said there were several changes to the original agreement. The first, and biggest, change was the amount the city has to pay.

He said before, the city had a cap of \$44,000 on the 40 percent of what it was expected to pay. Now, the city will pay 40 percent of the cost with the cap being the estimate that Sheriff Troy Thomson gives the city council each June. This is just so the city can figure its budget.

Other changes include the date the contract goes into effect, which is Jan. 1 and the amount of notification needed before either party can terminate.

The old contract said six months was required but the new one requires one year.

Mr. Lawson said the major problem with the old contract was the \$44,000 cap.

He said the city had been paying 40 percent of the total until the contract was reviewed and the cap was remembered. Then the city said it was only going to pay the \$44,000, which left the county in

a bind. Because of this, the county gave the city its six month termination notification.

"We just needed to renegotiate the contract," he said. "It should have been done sooner."

The last time the contract was negotiated was in 1993.

Since then, both the city and county have been working to resolve the issue. For 2004, the city agreed to pay the \$44,000 plus 50 percent of whatever costs remain after that. The county will pay the other 50 percent.

Mr. Lawson said the contract isn't expected to be renegotiated for awhile unless there is a problem. And if there is a problem, such as the total cost going over the expected estimate, then the council will talk about it when and if it happens and decide what to do, which possibly includes trying to reshuffle the budget to make the new figure work.

"We've (the city and county) done all the ground work," he said.

"It's just a matter of him (Sheriff Thomson) turning in the expected budget. He's always been really good about getting us a good estimate though."

Copies of the agreement can be seen at both the city and county clerk's offices.

# Norton Extension Council holds annual meeting

By KEITH VANSKIKE, county Extension director

The Norton County Extension Council held its annual meeting Monday, recognized Kansas State University education programs, announced the new members of the council and elected its executive board.

President Carol Riemann led the meeting with the help of Secretary Alice Barnett.

The guests were Magistrate

Judge Deb Anderson, Northwest Kansas Area Extension Director Dan O'Brien, and multicounty Extension specialists Brian Olson and Tranda Watts.

Mr. Olson is an agronomy specialist and Ms. Watts a nutrition, safety and health specialist serving Norton, Trego, Decatur, Sheridan and Gove counties.

Executive Board Chairwoman Carol Riemann announced that Ivan and Cathy Bohl are the recipi-

ents of the 2004 Extension Council Appreciation Award. They have supported Extension Education programs and two of their children, Bekah and Scott, have served on the Extension Council. All of their children have been active in 4-H. Both were very active in helping out with the Denver trip benefit meal and the trip itself several years.

Mrs. Bohl was a 4-H foods and nutrition leader for 10 years and

leadership leader for four years. She served eight years on the Extension Council Family Consumer Sciences PDC and served four years on the executive board, three of those years as the chairwoman.

Mr. Bohl has provided the annual wheat variety test plots since 1992 and has served on the Norton County fair board. He was the beef project leader for 10 years for their local 4-H club.

Retiring members of the coun-

cil are Robby Mapes, Frank Hillebrand, Darlene McEwen, Jeanette Lacy, Connie Miller, Samantha Fulton, Angie Juenemann, David Davis, Robert Wiltfong and Ms. Riemann.

Mr. O'Brien explained the voting process for the executive board elections. Newly elected members were sworn in by Judge Anderson. They are Steve Herrs, chairman; David Donovan, vice-chairman; Ms. Barnett, secretary; Eric Thompson, treasurer; and Becky Smith, Sue Hillebrand, Michelle Bohl, LeVonne Otter and Kara Maddy, directors.

# 4-H'ers picked to attend national convention

Two Norton County 4-H members will be attending the National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Ga. this week.

Keesha Holste and Joshua Vanski are joining the 41 people in the Kansas delegation. Both are from the Busy Jayhawkers 4-H Club.

"Growing into the Future" is the theme of this year's national event and those who are selected have received honors on the state level in many areas.

Keesha represents one of six other "Standard of Excellence" winners selected out of the state and local Key Award program. The Key Award is the highest honor an individual 4-H member can achieve and only six award recipients from Kansas were selected for the congress. The Key Award is for leadership, citizenship and project participation over a 4-H career. Keesha is an 11-year member.

Joshua will be among 36 club project awardees who will attend. He was selected as the state 4-H woodwork project runner-up recipient. His award application was selected from five other to be representative of 4-H administrative areas to be represented at congress from the woodworking project area. Joshua is a nine-year member of 4-H.

The National Congress will feature inspirational speakers such as Diedre Downs, Miss America 2005, many leadership opportunities, public service, educational tours, and social gatherings for the delegates from all 50 states.



# Electric rate increase stays

(Continued from Page 1) costing us to generate our own," he said.

But, he said, the city won't know how much things will cost until the contract is negotiated.

Also, he said the Kansas Municipal Energy Association is going to be doing an audit on the city's electrical rates shortly after the first of the year to see if things are where they are supposed to be. He said the city would know more after that.

Mr. Lawson said the surcharge shouldn't be too bad and will be the same as what people have been seeing on their bills since September. He said the increase averages around \$5 per customer. For 800 kilowatts of power per month, he said customers are looking at about \$6 a month.

"Norton has pretty cheap power," he said. "It may not be as cheap as some cities get it, but it's a lot less expensive than a lot of the others," he said.

As for Sunflower Electric, he said the city is trying to become a member, which has never been done before. If all goes well at the negotiating table, Norton will be the first city to do so.

Mr. Lawson said the original ordinance is supposed to end in January.

The new ordinance will take effect then and will last until December 2005. There are two more readings of the new ordinance before it can be passed, however, so customers with complaints or concerns still have time to talk to a council member.

## FINAL MARKDOWNS

**Final Days—  
Final Price Cuts—  
Final Chance to  
Buy at Wholesale  
or Below!**



**2002 NISSAN QUEST — Local one owner, loaded with options, white and has NEW TIRES, ONLY 28K**  
Blue Book ..... \$18,320  
NADA ..... \$17,525  
Wholesale ..... \$13,995



**2000 GMC SAFARI SLE — AWD/EXT (White), Local one owner, loaded with options, has new tires**  
Blue Book ..... \$14,325  
NADA ..... \$11,650  
Wholesale ..... \$8,675



**1997 DODGE RAM BR 2500 HD (4x2) — Club Cab, "SLT" Laramie, blue and silver, local one owner, has new tires and more**  
Blue Book ..... \$10,445  
NADA ..... \$10,625  
Wholesale ..... \$7,750

**ALSO Several Older Vans, Cars & Trucks at \$895 or LESS!!**

**City Motors, Inc.**  
E. HIGHWAY 36, NORTON  
877-3234 • 888-877-3234



*When you're driving on US 36 or 75 between November 15th and 24th, you'd better obey the law.*

## Don't ignore this warning.

*"Drive carefully. We're strictly enforcing the law."*

Law enforcement officers all across Kansas are united in an unprecedented crackdown on drivers who break the law. And you're part of the effort—like it or not.

We're especially watching for people who aren't wearing their seat belts.

So, if you get pulled over for a traffic violation and are not wearing your seat belt, you aren't going to get just one ticket—you're going to get two! I know you may not like it, but enforcing the law is my job. And I'd rather see you angry than dead.

**Click it. Or ticket.**  
It's Kansas Law.

## Norton County Weather November 23<sup>rd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
32/21	38/20	45/25	43/25	35/23	30/18	28/21
Normal High	47			Sunrise 7:33 to 7:40am		
Normal Low	23			Sunset 5:16 to 5:19pm		

Rain, freezing rain and snow will fall today and tonight, from Oklahoma City to Kansas City. For us skies will be cloudier with colder temperatures through Wednesday. Thanksgiving Day sunshine pushes highs back into the 40's. Friday clouds increase and chances for snow pick up overnight through the day Saturday. Sunday and Monday remain cold with some flurries. The extended forecast into December has storms coming every two to three days. Happy Thanksgiving!

[www.decisionweather.com](http://www.decisionweather.com)  
Courtesy of Miller Aviation  
Copyright © 2004 Decision Weather, Inc.